

THE CITIZEN

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The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

May 10, 2005

Stuttgart, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

A great day to be a golfer

Season opens under sunny skies in Stuttgart
Page 15



As Sue Hamilton looks on, Tony Green hits his approach shot from the 9th fairway during the Chuck Cresswell Memorial Golf Tournament on the Stuttgart Golf Course. The April 30 tournament marked the official start of golf season on the local course.

Hugh C. McBride

INSIDE THIS EDITION



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KidsFest concludes Month of Military Child

A monthlong series of events to honor military children ends with a successful – and sunny – festival on Patch Barracks.



Page 13

Start summer safely: Swim smart

With temperatures on the rise, community members are reminded to keep safety at the forefront during swim season.

Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions

Roses to:

Judy in the Kelley Barracks mailroom, for her dedication to duty and commitment to customer service. Every time I'm in the mailroom Judy is working hard, yet she's never too busy to offer a kind word and a friendly smile – and she leaves no doubt that customer service is her top priority.

Dave Roach and the rest of the staff at the Kelley Hotel, for offering truly superior service to my family during our stay on Kelley Barracks. We have nothing but rave reviews for the care and hospitality we received at the hotel. Thank you all for going above and beyond the call of duty on our behalf. (For additional recognition of the Kelley Hotel's superior service see page 4.)

Thorns to:

The Stuttgart Army Health Clinic, for making an appointment for my son to see a pediatrician and allowing me to sit for over an hour in the waiting room before telling me that my son could not be seen because we are not an active-duty military family. This policy is inconvenient, but the waste of our time was unacceptable.

The Patch Movie Theater. During a recent outing to see "Robots," the soda was flat, the women's bathroom was filthy, and the film went out of focus or was misaligned on the screen so many times we started taking bets on when it would happen again.

E-mail comments to citizen@6asg.army.mil or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

CORRECTION

The director of the 6th Area Support Group Housing Office was misidentified in a photo caption accompanying the story "Community services begin move to Panzer" (April 26, page 5). The director's name is Mary Scott.

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil

Army leaders stress safety

Secretary says accident prevention top priority for troops, civilians, family members

Dr. Francis J. Harvey
Department of the Army

My most important priority as Secretary of the Army is providing for well-being of the Soldiers, civilian employees and family members of the active component, the Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard.

Well-being includes a safe working and living environment. I am very concerned by the rising toll that accidents are taking on the Army.

In fiscal year 2004, 269 of America's sons and daughters serving our country died in accidents – most of which were avoidable. Every month we average over 41,000 injuries to Soldiers – 1,500 resulting in lost duty time.

Civilian injuries and fatalities have risen by 18 percent and 86 percent, respectively, during the past two fiscal years. And the Army is currently experiencing an unacceptable increase in tactical vehicle accidents.

In the first ten weeks of this year, we have experienced 14 serious military vehicle accidents, resulting in the death of 17 Soldiers.

Our Army faces many complex challenges in safety and health, including a demanding operational tempo, increased intensity of pre- and post-deployment training, and more cases of personal high-risk behavior following redeployment.

We can, and we will, do better in assessing and managing risks and preventing accidents – deployed, in garrison, and off-duty.

There are three key elements to ensuring safety. The first is leadership. Safety is a command responsibility, and it is an integral part of everything we do. I expect all leaders to provide the necessary attention and resources to ensure their units and subordinates operate as safely as circumstances permit.

The second key element is an aggressively managed safety and occupational health program, tied to performance metrics and accountability.

The third key element is proper risk management with compliance to regulatory requirements and a clear understanding of composite risks.

I have instructed the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Environment to:

Assess the management of the Army safety program and set the direction for improvements that will achieve significant reductions in Army accidents, and

Synchronize initiatives from the Defense Safety Oversight Council, the Army Safety Coordinating Panel, major army commands, the Installation Management Agency, and the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center to ensure the effectiveness of our accident prevention efforts.

From this, we will establish safety and occupational health performance metrics with quarterly performance and accountability reviews.

I expect all Army leaders to employ safety and occupational health performance metrics appropriate to their organization and



Harvey

USAREUR commander warns of railcar electrocution risk

By Gen. B.B. Bell
U.S. Army, Europe

A German youth was electrocuted recently when he climbed onto an armored vehicle that was loaded on a railcar. He died when he was hit by a 15,000-volt arc of electricity from the powerlines above the railcar.

He was only 18 years old. His 16-year-old companion was severely burned when he tried to rescue him.

By now, all Soldiers should be well aware of USAREUR policy on staying off of railcars once they are loaded.

This policy, which is in AE Regulation 55-4, paragraph 36d(3)(a); and AE Pamphlet 385-15, paragraphs 29 and 30, was implemented because of several on- and off-duty fatalities and serious injuries that resulted when Soldiers climbed on railcars and came too close to the overhead powerlines.

This latest tragedy serves as a reminder of what can happen if this policy is ignored.

It also shows why we must teach our family members about the dangers of climbing on railcars, and highlights the related hazards of trying to rescue someone from this type of accident.

Children must be warned to stay away from railyards. The theme of the German Rail Youth Protection Program is "A Railyard is Not a High-Adventure Playground."

Ensure your family members understand the risks involving railroads and the reasons why railroad tracks and railcars are off limits.

Overhead rail powerlines in Germany have an incredibly high voltage and are extremely dangerous.

The electricity these lines carry can arc several feet before hitting and electrocuting you, just like a bolt of lightning.

You do not have to touch these powerlines to be killed!

Only a handful of specially trained individuals have the knowledge and skill to safely ground the system and attempt a rescue.

Other rail systems in Europe are similar. Because of this danger, people who witness someone being shocked by these powerlines must not try to rescue or ad-



Bell

The results of coming too close to overhead rail powerlines are quick and severe.

minister first aid unless the victim is thrown or falls well away from the power source.

The safest thing to do is stay at a safe distance and call for help. In Europe, the number to call is usually 110 or 112.

The results of coming too close to overhead rail powerlines are quick and severe.

Many of you may have seen "The Green Mile," a 1999 film starring Tom Hanks. The film included a very graphic scene in which a man was executed in an electric chair.

That scene illustrates what it is like to be hit by an arc of electricity from a rail powerline.

Again, keep in mind that you can be seriously injured or killed without even touching a rail powerline.

If you get too close to the line, the electricity will arc to the closest part of your body. Bystanders will hear a pop and see a flash. The arc will cause burn holes where it enters and exits the body, and the victim's clothing may catch fire.

The current literally cooks the flesh and disrupts electrical impulses in the brain, the heart, and other muscles.

This type of tragedy can be prevented by ensuring everyone – Soldiers, civilian employees, and family members – understands the dangers of railyards and, specifically, of climbing on railcars.

Our goal is No Loss of Life. To help us achieve that goal, make sure everyone in your organization and in your family reads this message.

Understanding and complying with this safety alert will help ensure we all remain safe and able to continue executing with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere.

Bell is commander of U.S. Army, Europe. This article is an excerpt of Bell Sends #20-05 (Youth Electrocuted While Climbing on Railcar), which may be accessed at www.hqusareur.army.mil.

to require an accounting of safety and health performance.

Our Soldiers, civilian employees and family members are the foundation of all that we do, and there is no higher cause than the defense of our nation.

Our job as leaders is to ensure they have the skills to identify and manage risks, whether on the battlefield, in the workplace, in our communities, or behind the wheel.

I do not accept the argument that accidents are the price we must pay for the high-

risk nature of our service.

Though we are in a dangerous business, we must assess and manage risk intelligently. At the same time, we must reverse current trends and reduce occupational injuries and illnesses, enhancing combat readiness and efficiency while maintaining the well-being, morale, and retention of our people.

Harvey is the secretary of the Army. This article is excerpted from a memorandum entitled "Safety and Occupational Health."



photos by Adam Gramarossa (21st Theater Support Command)

6th Area Support Group Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez makes a point during a roundtable discussion at the Garrison Commanders Conference in Garmisch's Edelweiss Lodge and Resort.

6th ASG hosts commanders conference in Garmisch

By Mildred Green

The 6th Area Support Group hosted installation management officials from throughout Europe during the first Garrison Commanders Conference April 20 to 22 in Garmisch's Edelweiss Lodge and Resort.

In addition to the new name (which reflects the Standard Garrison Organization plan that will go into full effect during fiscal year 2006), this gathering was the largest of its kind – incorporating not only commanders, but also command sergeants major, noted Installation Management Agency Europe Region Director Russell Hall.

The conversion of the Army's overseas area support groups and base support battalions into the garrison structure was a primary focus of the gathering.

The overall purpose was for headquarters to communicate information and guidance "in a routine fashion to provide commanders [with the tools] to implement all programs effectively," Hall said.

"Most garrison commanders and sergeants major are Soldiers," Hall said. "They bring with them leadership qualities [and] events like this provide these great men and women with additional guidance, training and insight on how to make this business run and operate."

Also, Hall noted, gatherings such as the April GCC serve as "a time for camaraderie among these men and women."

Accompanying the change to standard garrison organization structure will be a standardization of resources, Hall said. The Army's goal is to provide a consistent quality of services for all Soldiers and families.

One of the more obvious changes will occur Oct. 1, when all ASG and BSB flags will be cased and the new garrison flags will first be flown, Hall said. Though the names will change, Hall emphasized, the quality of support IMA offers will only continue to improve.

"We are still here, we didn't go away," he said.



6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris addresses attendees during the Garrison Commanders Conference, which was hosted by the 6th ASG.

Charles "Chuck" Cresswell, 57 Former Marine, golf course employee

Charles "Chuck" A. Cresswell, an employee with the 6th Area Support Group's Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, died April 14 in Ludwigsburg Hospital after suffering a heart attack.

A highly decorated Marine Corps retiree who had reached the rank of master gunnery sergeant, Cresswell was employed at the Stuttgart Golf Course in Kornwestheim at the time of his death.

"What made Chuck special was that he always had

a smile on his face," said Marco Spellacy, course manager. "He was a great employee and he had a great sense of humor – that's why people were drawn to him. He will be missed."

The course's season-opening tournament was renamed in Cresswell's honor, and a memorial service was held on the golf course April 27 – the same day on which he was interred in Arlington National Cemetery.

Cresswell is survived by a son, Michael.

News & Notes

Asian-Pacific celebration on Patch

Commemorate Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month with a special observance May 17, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Patch Barracks' Husky Field.

The celebration will include an array of delectable foods, and will also feature festive music and dance.

For more information call 421-2649/civ. 0711-729-2649 or 421-2892/civ. 0711-729-2892.

Memorial Day ceremony slated

American Legion Stuttgart Post 6 will host the area's Memorial Day ceremony May 30, 11 a.m., in Patch Barracks' Washington Square.

All community members are invited to attend the ceremony and free barbecue that will follow.

For details call Ty Stearn at 421-2345/civ. 0711-729-2345 or e-mail stearnt@6asg.army.mil.

Summer Hire signups continue

Registration for the U.S. Army, Europe, Summer Hire Program has begun. Family members ages 14 to 22 are eligible for this program, which offers six weeks of paid work in office and outdoor settings.

The deadline to apply for Summer Hire is May 13, and the work season is June 27 to August 5.

For more information or to apply visit www.chra.hqusareur.mil and click "Summer Hire."

Wellness Center offers meditation

The Stuttgart Wellness Center offers transformation meditation beginning May 18, 9 to 10 a.m. This five-week course will help you learn to relax and reduce anxiety.

For more information or to register call Joni Brady at 430-4658/civ. 0711-680-4658.

NAF positions available

The Nonappropriated Fund Human Resources Office at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, building 3315, Kelley Barracks, is accepting applications for the following NAF positions:

Child & Youth Program Assistants, regular full-time, regular part-time and flexible, for Child Development Centers, School Age Services and Youth Services. Starting pay is \$8.63 to \$15.37 per hour based on education and experience. Transcripts are required.

For vacancy announcements and the NAF job application kit visit www.chra.eur.army.mil or call 421-2191/civ. 0711-7292191.

Kayak with Outdoor Rec

Join Outdoor Recreation on a kayaking and camping adventure May 20 in Altensteig, Germany.

Cost is \$75 and includes transportation, camping and kayak equipment. Deadline to register is May 16.

For more information call Chris Fliegel at 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

Dodgeball returns to Patch

The 6th ASG Sports and Fitness office hosts an indoor coed dodgeball tournament May 12, 6 p.m., in the Patch gym. Participants must be 18 years or older. Cost is free.

For more information call 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

MOPS needs committee members

Mothers of Preschoolers is looking for volunteers to join its new steering committee. Positions include coordinator, creativity and finance officers.

The MOPS mission is to develop the lives of mothers spiritually, emotionally and creatively through education, fellowship and prayer. The group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., in the Panzer Chapel.

For details call Jacquie Waskiewicz at 07054-928-955.

Bowling league forming at Galaxy

Summer league teams are forming at The Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center on Panzer Kaserne.

Family, 9-pin No Tap, and 4-Person Mixed leagues will all begin play this summer – and a Ladies league is also being considered.

Also, don't forget about "Dollar Mondays," when you can play for only \$1 per game – shoes included.

For more information about the many opportunities at The Galaxy call 431-2719/civ. 07031-15-2719

Lodging Operation of the Year

Kelley Hotel earns Armywide award

By Christine Castro

For the second time in five years, the Kelley Hotel has earned Armywide honors for excellence.

The hotel, which opened in 2001, earned its second Lodging Operation of the Year Award – an accomplishment, said facility Manager Dave Roach, that resulted from “total teamwork by the entire staff.”

The LOYA competition encompassed 99 Army lodging facilities worldwide, categorized by occupancy capacities.

In addition to a trophy, the hotel received a \$5,000 check to be used in support of hotel operations, individual employee bonuses, and “bragging rights for a whole year,” Roach said.

The first phase of the LOYA competition involved a 375-component self-assessment. Next, four hotels in Europe were chosen by Ron Witcher, the IMA Lodging program manager, to be included in an on-site inspection judged on three criteria – quality of service, operations and the facility itself.

Teamwork

Roach said both the award and the overall response from customer survey cards are reflective of the staff’s hard work, and he noted that customers regularly mention individual staff members by name for offering excellent service.

For example, Roach said, front Office Manager Winter Keller has received many mentions for his quality contributions to the hotel’s operations.

A former noncommissioned officer in the Army, Roach said he values the leadership skills that he received while in the service. “Leadership was the biggest thing I brought from the military,” he said. “If I expect something from someone, I have to expect [the same] from myself.”

First Choice

Roach said he believes that a caring staff and a preventive maintenance policy are the keys to running a successful hotel.

“You’ve got to put the guest first,” he said. “There should never be a report of missing or broken items by a guest upon initially entering their room.”



Courtesy Kelley Hotel
Kelley Hotel Manager Dave Roach (second from right) receives his LOYA award along with other category winners during an April 21 ceremony.

The Kelley Hotel has made the 6th Area Support Group’s “First Choice” philosophy a focus of its business by attempting to give their guests “no other choice than to come back and stay with us,” Roach said. “We try to make [our guests’] stay as pleasant and friendly and comfortable as possible, and hopefully they feel bad when they leave us.”

With Army Lodging focusing on progression in an attempt to bring military facilities in line with commercial hotels, Roach said his staff is working to consistently improve the quality of their guests’ experiences.

In the near future, he said, upgrades will include offering a continental breakfast for guests (which is scheduled to begin in October). Longer-term goals include adding high-speed Internet access both in rooms as well as at a kiosk in the lobby.

“We want you to see the same amenities [in every Army facility] that you would see in the States,” he said.

For more about the Kelley Hotel call 421-2815/civ. 0711-729-2815 or visit www.stuttgart.army.mil/sites/about/lodging.asp.



Mildred Green

Stuttgart’s Kelley Hotel has earned the 2005 Lodging of the Year Award. This is the second time the facility, which opened in 2001, has received the honor for its exemplary operations, service and facility.

Air Force activates unit on Patch

Story & photo by Melanie Casey

The United States Air Forces in Europe’s 428th Air Base Group unfurled its colors for the first time during an April 18 activation ceremony in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

The new group, which will be headquartered on Patch, falls under the command of Col. Karen Taylor, who had been at the helm of the European Mission Support Squadron since 2001.

The 428th provides personnel, services, finance, chapel, legal and medical support to more than 4,500 service members in 200 geographically separated units in U.S. European Command, NATO and at least 15 other commands across four continents.

The group also encompasses four squadrons, which were realigned during the ceremony: the European MSS; the 470th Air Base Squadron in Geilenkirchen, Germany; the 2nd Air Postal Squadron in Ramstein, Germany; and the 426th Air Base Squadron in Stavanger, Norway.

The current commander of Stuttgart’s European MSS is Maj. Karyn Wright, with Maj. Sandra Kolb set to take the helm this summer.

Beyond the scope

As the European MSS commander, Taylor found that “rather than focusing on personnel issues ... I was constantly being asked to solve communications, logistics and deployment challenges, mainly



Col. Karen Taylor assumes command of the 428th Air Base Group during an April 18 ceremony in the Swabian Special Events Center.

within NATO, but also for Air Force members we support who are geographically separated from their commands and have no single support system,” she said during the ceremony.

Many issues were not only outside her squadron’s personnel-oriented mission, she added, but, “in many cases beyond our resources to resolve adequately.”

Help on the way

Taylor started to see improvement in the ability to support geographically separated units in May 2004, when USAFE’s 38th Combat Support Wing was activated in Sembach, Germany.

Until then, Taylor said, there wasn’t even a chain of command for EMSS personnel to “upchannel many of the non-personnel challenges our customers – and thus we – faced. It was a frustrating situation for them and for us as well.”

The group’s activation also consolidates much of USAFE’s support to NATO. “Issues [that the different units under my command] were all working independently now come through me,” she said.

“The important thing is that we now have a single group commander to address all kinds of issues, [and] more resources,” said 38th Combat Support Wing Commander Richard Weathers.

Calling Taylor “a superb leader and the right person for the job,” Weathers said that the activation of the 428th Air Base Group was long overdue. “The benefits will manifest exponentially,” he added. “We’re moving toward 100 percent.”

With the activation of the 428th and subsequent squadron realignment, there now is “a group supporting Air Force personnel in EUCOM and much of NATO,” Taylor said. “The 428th sets us on a focused path to providing improved customer service and resolving long-standing support challenges.”



Terri Alejandro

United for the environment

U.S. European Command Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Colby Broadwater III and Stuttgart’s Lord Mayor Wolfgang Schuster plant a tree together in Stuttgart’s Karlsplatz during an April 21 ceremony in honor of Earth Day.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Patch Barracks (Washington Square)

May 30 – 11 a.m.

- Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Stuttgart Post 6.
- All community members are invited to attend.
- Free barbecue immediately following the ceremony.

For more information call 421-2345/civ. 0711-729-2345 or e-mail stearnt@6asg.army.mil.

A matter of life or death

Living wills help make decisions when you can't

By Elaine Wilson
Army News Service

The recent Terri Schiavo saga both captured and divided the nation, as moral and legal questions were raised over an individual's right to live or die.

While people remain at odds over the underlying issues, most are in consensus on one topic — the importance of living wills.

"We've had a huge increase over the past couple of months because of the Schiavo case," said Burton Brasher, Fort Sam Houston chief of client services.

"We've probably done more in the past two months than we've done in the past year," Brasher said.

Removing doubt

A living will, Brasher said, is a legal document that expresses one's personal healthcare wishes when he or she is unable to.

"If you're incapacitated, a living will provides the doctor with guidance for your continued treatment," Brasher said.

"Doctors are trained to do everything they can to preserve life," Brasher said. "But not all people want to live like that, whether due to religious beliefs, personal convictions or financial reasons."

Living wills are particularly important for people heading into risky situations, such as combat or a medical procedure.

"It helps remove uncertainty," Brasher said. "We have a lot of doctors sending patients over here before surgeries. They

There is no federal standard for living wills, so many states have developed their own formats. The documents are particularly important for people heading into risky situations, such as combat or a medical procedure.

recognize the importance of the document. The more a doctor knows, the better he can do his job."

No federal standard

There is no federal standard for living wills, so many states have developed their own formats.

Texas, for example, has two documents, both referred to as living wills. One is a Texas directive to physicians and the other is a special power of attorney for healthcare.

The directive expresses the patient's personal desires in advance, and the power of attorney designates a "decision-maker" who would decide on the measures taken to preserve life at a later time.

Both documents are legally binding, but Brasher said people who have both documents should make sure neither one conflicts with the other.

"Make sure your personal wishes and the person you designate as your decision-maker in the power of attorney are on the same page," he said.

Though Texas operates under a dual-document system, other states have just

one document.

In some states, organ donation is included in living wills, while the choice to donate is designated through the driver's license system in others.

Whatever the differences, Brasher recommends a living will based on where people live, whether a resident or not, to remove the "guess work."

"It's best to have one for the state you live in or PCS to, so the local doctor has a document he's familiar with," he said.

Update regularly

Another way to avoid potential problems is to update living wills every two to three years so there's recent proof and "less questions raised about whether you still feel the same way as you did when you signed the document," Brasher said.

Any military legal assistance office can prepare living wills free of charge to active-duty military members, family members, retirees and reservists on active duty for 30-plus days.

Understand your options

Living will

- A living will is a legal document that states a person's desire to receive or withhold life support.
- This applies *only* when doctors determine a patient is suffering from a terminally ill disease or is in an irreversible coma and unable to make decisions for him or herself. (Source: Web MD Medical News)

Durable power of attorney

- A durable power of attorney is a legal document that allows patients to specify in advance who should make health care decisions for them should they become unable to do so.
- A durable power of attorney can apply any time a patient loses the ability to make his or her own health care decisions. (Source: Web MD Medical News)

Help is available

- Although living wills and durable powers of attorney can be prepared without legal assistance, consulting an attorney is recommended.
- Because no federal standard exists for living wills, individuals who relocate often may be in greater need of assistance to ensure that their end-of-life wishes are understood and enforceable.
- For more information call the Stuttgart Law Center at 421-4152/civ. 0711-729-4152.

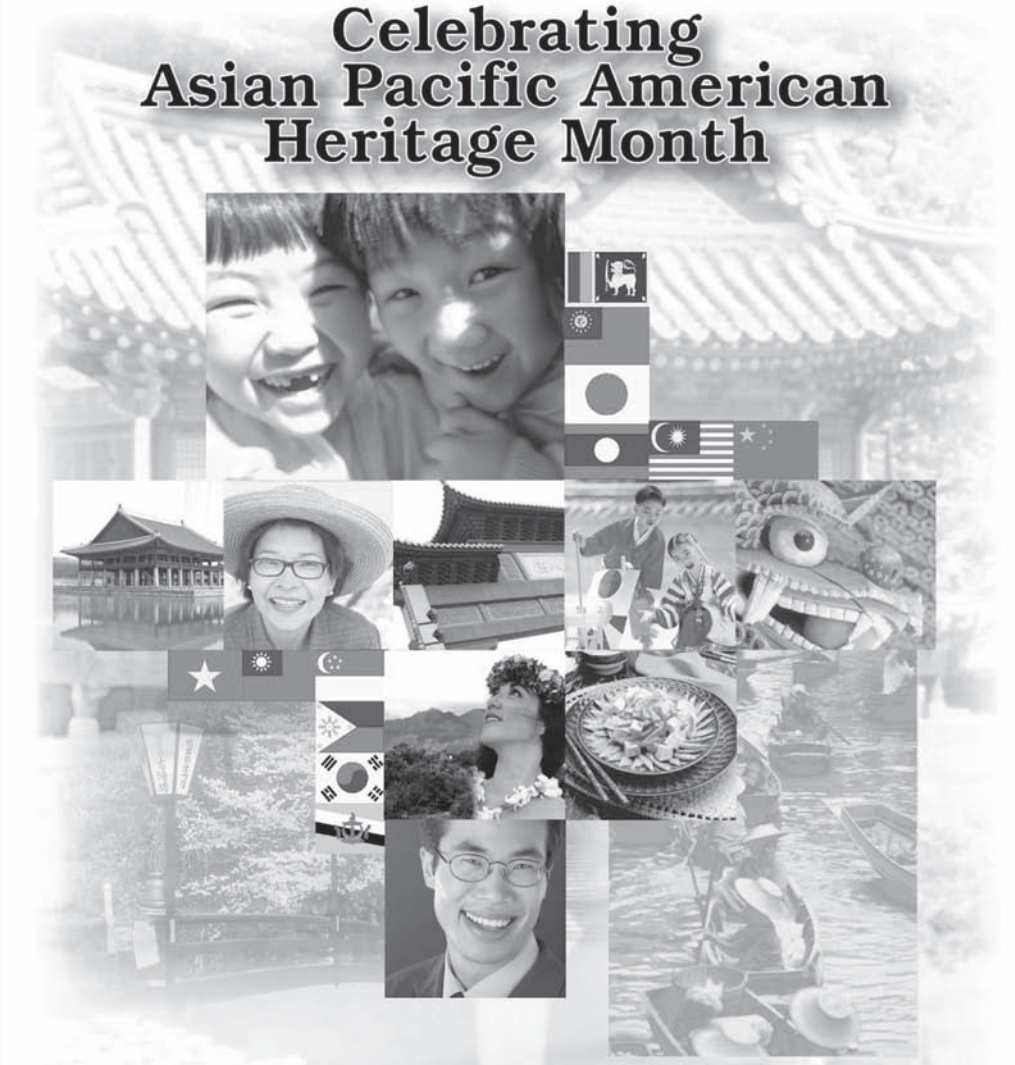
MWR SALUTES SERVICE MEMBERS!
Armed Forces Day
May 21 All U.S. ID cardholders are eligible for Armed Services Day freebies at these participating Stuttgart MWR facilities:

<p>STUTTGART GOLF COURSE Open 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m. ■ One free 18-hole game of golf ■ Free range balls ■ 15% off of all apparel Sign up in the Pro Shop for a chance to win a 20-punch range card or a free one-hour lesson with one of our golf pros.</p>	<p>GALAXY BOWLING & ENTERTAINMENT CENTER Open 11 a.m.-1 a.m. May 22 ■ Two free games of bowling including shoe rental</p>	<p>PATCH CAR WASH Open 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. ■ One free Basic car wash</p> <p>PANZER AUTO CRAFT SHOP Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ■ No bay fees</p>
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Thank You!



Celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month



May 17, 2005
Husky Field, Patch Barracks
11:30am-1:00pm
Join us and experience the food, music and dance

For more information, contact the Equal Opportunity (EO) office
DSN 421-2684 CIV 0711-729-2684

Army debuts Web site for FCC care in States

By Shadi May
Army News Service

The U.S. Army Family Child Care program is offering a Web-based information and referral tool for parents who are considering using home-based care on or near a State-side military installation.

The new site can be accessed at www.armyfcc.com.

The family child care program provides military members or qualified civilians a home away from home for their children through military family members or independent contractors in individual housing units located on a military installation, in government-controlled housing off the installation or in civilian housing off the installation.

"We hope ArmyFCC.com will allow parents to view the program in a way they haven't been able to do before," said Marilyn Judge, director of Fort Sam Houston FCC. "Getting information out to the perspective parents is very helpful to us, parents and providers."

A virtual tour of an FCC home offers parents, who may be reluctant to visit a series of homes in order to make a selection, pictures and information they need to know to make an important decision.

"It's making our referral process much more efficient," Judge said. "The providers will make their own updates from their home computers."

The Web site also allows the providers to tell in their own words what they do and what is important to them, and gives each provider an equal chance to impress prospective parents.

"It is an opportunity for us to showcase our homes and really introduce ourselves as independent businesses," said Shawn Lowery, an FCC provider at Fort Sam Houston. "The program helps break the babysitter stereotype, moving us to a new category."

The secure section offers protection so that only eligible parents can view provider information.

The central enrollment registry staff at each installation will assist in the search process and can answer questions parents may have about individual FCC provider profiles. To make it a fair process for all families, parents must request childcare through the installation's CER office.

[The Web site] is an opportunity for us to showcase our homes and introduce ourselves as independent businesses. The program helps break the babysitter stereotype.

Shawn Lowery
FCC Provider

Although ArmyFCC.com gives parents an advance start in selecting the best placement for their child, it does not guarantee a space in a specific home. Also, officials advise parents not to use the site as a substitute for interviews with potential providers.

As the number of temporary duty trips and deployments rises, the FCC program makes life easier for Soldiers and their diverse work hours by offering full-day, part-day and hourly care.

FCC's special services include 24-hour and long-term care during mobilization and training exercises, evening and weekend care, and care for special needs and mildly ill children.

In order to benefit from any CYS programs, including FCC services, families must complete a registration process and pay a registration fee. However, it is not necessary to complete the registration process to place a child's name on the waiting list.

"I think it's great that the providers are getting this kind of support and attention," Judge said.

"They put in long hours to provide child care, and they are not as visible as an activity taking place in a facility. It gives them proper exposure."

Overseas military communities can look forward to the same benefits of the new program, expected to be fielded late summer 2005 following training of the program in the last week of June.

"[It's a] great opportunity for families to view the new installation and see what is available and promote the FCC program," said Stacy Groth, the FCC coordinator in Stuttgart.

For more information about program in Stuttgart call 421-2022/civ. 0711-729-2022.



Robinson Barracks' resident Lt. Col. Eric Gates reviews floor plans for renovated housing units during RB's April 23 Housing Information Fair. The second of four installation-specific events, the RB fair gave residents the opportunity to meet with housing officials, learn about projects in the works, and weigh in with their own opinions and suggestions.

Housing hits the road

Info Fairs emphasize customer service on all Stuttgart-area installations

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

The staff of the 6th Area Support Group Housing Office appears to like life on the move.

Shortly after completing an office relocation from Patch Barracks to the new Welcome Center on Panzer Kaserne, the housing staff took the show on the road with "Information Fairs" on each of Stuttgart's four main installations.

Part community picnics, part informal townhall forums, the info fairs were designed to promote the housing office's "Community of Choice" theme and let residents know that customer service is the office's top priority, Housing Director Mary Scott said during the April 23 fair on Robinson Barracks.

"This is about getting out into the neighborhoods and talking one-on-one," Scott said. "We want to let our customers know that we've got many innovative ways to take care of them."

Joining Scott at the fair were Emma Watson, housing's chief of Customer Service; Jim Grady, deputy director of the 6th Area Support Group Directorate of Public Works; and a number of other housing staff members.

"We have a lot of people out here on their day off to help serve our customers better," Scott said. In addition to providing residential information, the housing volunteers also cooked and served food, distributed and collected surveys, raffled off prizes and even painted a few faces.

Though his service prides itself on offering the "best of the best" in terms of quality of life issues, RB resident Air Force Lt. Col. Eric Gates said he was impressed by the efforts made by those in charge of the first Army installation he had ever lived on.

"I came out today because I wanted to learn about the plans for the community. They've done a good job of providing information and clearing up the rumors that are always floating around," Gates said. "Just the access they've provided has been impressive."

Comments like these appeared to be music to the ears of Watson, who is the housing office's point person when it comes to customer service.

"It almost feels like a whirlwind, because we've got so much planned," Watson said. But she emphasized that no matter how busy her office is, "my door is always open. Anyone can come in and talk to me about anything."

Among the housing office's many near-future plans, Scott said, are the opening of a sub-office on RB and the publica-



Maggie Simoneau, 9, is temporarily transformed into a tiger by Tiziana Colabuono during Robinson Barracks' April 23 Housing Information Fair. In addition to serving as an information forum for the installation's residents, the fair also enticed attendees with free food, raffles and games.

This is about getting out into the neighborhoods and talking one-on-one. We want to let our customers know that we've got many innovative ways to take care of them.

Mary Scott
6th ASG Housing Office

tion of a quarterly information bulletin.

Both efforts, she emphasized, are being implemented to improve her office's customer-service effort.

"We want to exceed their expectations," she said.

Stuttgart's final Housing Information Fair is May 14, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the gazebo next to building 2516 on Patch Barracks. For more information about housing issues call 431-2200/civ. 07031-15-2200.

Elementary schools honor community volunteers

Story and photo by Melanie Casey

They are the heroes behind the heroes. The efforts of a community's school volunteers may often go unnoticed, but Böblingen, Patch and Robinson Barracks Elementary schools took a few moments recently to honor, recognize and say "thank you" to theirs.

RBES held its Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 12; BES held one April 22, and PES held its April 25.

The Patch and Böblingen events both featured guest speaker Arline Oberst, president of Lifetime Resources for Women, Inc. and the lead co-author of the 2002 book "Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul."

Lending a helping hand

With more than 175 registered volunteers and 2,000 hours in volunteer time logged this school year, PES volunteers are "the best volunteers in the world," said PES Principal Susan Pleiss during the Patch event.

"It takes a community of volunteers to have a school run smoothly," Pleiss added, noting that the school's volunteers include not only the myriad parents who help out in the classroom, cafeteria and at home, but also Parent Teacher Association and School Advisory Committee board members, substitute teachers (who often work on their own time before or after school) and school mentors.

BES – whose PTA was named the best in Europe during the May 2004 European PTA Convention – also boasts an impressive volunteer record with more than 87 volunteers regularly donating their time during the 2004-05 school year.

A way to say thanks

Volunteers on hand for the events received a warm thank you and a certificate of appreciation.

BES volunteers were also treated to a catered dinner; a poem written by the

The most important gifts are gifts of time, talent, happiness and the love of learning the volunteers demonstrate. Our volunteers are a gift to the next generation.

Margaret Deatherage
Böblingen Elementary School

school's principal, Margaret Deatherage; a lapel pin; an ornament; and a PTA-created CD entitled "A Different Kind of Hero," which featured various school scenes including volunteers from throughout the year.

Helen Lyonnais, BES PTA president, also presented each faculty member with the CD as well as a BES polo shirt and candy.

"There were meaningful and nice gifts all around," Deatherage said, "but the most important gifts are gifts of time, talent, happiness and the love of learning the volunteers demonstrate for the children and the school and community throughout the year. Our volunteers are a gift to the next generation."

For more information about PES visit www.patch-es.eu.dodea.edu. For information about BES visit www.stut-esb.eu.dodea.edu. For information about RBES visit www.rbar-es.dodea.edu.

For more information about Oberst visit her Web site at www.ArlineOberst.com.



Arline Oberst, lead co-author of the book "Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul," speaks to a group of Patch Elementary School volunteers April 25 during the school's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. Oberst also spoke at Böblingen Elementary School's ceremony April 22.

PHS Career Day shows students opportunities

By Christine Castro

The halls of Patch High School were brimming with an excitement beyond that of a normal day during the school's April 27 Career Day.

The 6th Area Support Group Child and Youth Services teamed with PHS to provide the event, which featured more than 25 organizations and agencies including the military police, Verizon, Information Technology, Army Community Service, CYs, the University of Maryland and Army and Navy recruiters.

The nearly 600 PHS students were released from class to attend the fair and given time to peruse through the material offered by activity representatives.

Informational booths featuring displays and promotional giveaways were set up during the event. Many civilian and military organizations showed their support for the teens, offering insight into different careers, explaining the paths to get there and answering questions.

Whether the teens in attendance were contemplating a career for the future or simply taking advantage of the temporary release from class, the event appeared to be eye-opening for them.

Many teens expressed strong interest in the opportunities presented. Students spoke with agency representatives and filled out forms requesting more information. They also enjoyed snacks donated by a commissary vendor.

A great success

"The event was a great success," said Patricia Tyson, the middle and high school Homework Lab instructor and Career Launch coordinator with the Boy's and Girl's Club of America.

Tyson credited the success of the day in part to the collaboration between CYs and PHS. In previous years, the two organizations conducted a Job Fair or Career Day separately. By combining efforts, Tyson said, they had access to new and additional vendors and organizations to provide the students with greater opportunities.

"We just wanted to make it fun for the students, something they would enjoy and hopefully get them excited at the prospect of finding a career," Tyson said. "You never know what one thing you may say that could make a difference to a child."

Tyson added that she was approached by many students who indicated that they found a future career in which they may be interested.

The Career Day "allow[ed students] to see the opportunities that they may not know they have," said PHS senior Tamara Stovall. Many teens were encouraged by the fact that their prospects for a career are not limited due to living overseas, she added.

Most popular activities

The U.S. Navy recruiters, whose booth rarely lacked a student audience, impressed many participants with the fact that one Navy aircraft carrier is self-sufficient enough to support a small city.

Petty Officer Joe Karr indicated that a Navy ship has opportunities for nearly every occupation that one might look for in a typical city, including medical personnel, technical workers, culinary artists and even decorators.

Other popular stops included the Information Technology, Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic and Social Work Services booths.

Tyson said that social work was popular with the teens because many have had first-hand experience with related issues and have a desire to help other children. The students also enjoyed seeing the military working dog, who was presented with the military police and the vet clinic.

Senior Adam Fugent, the PHS student council president who has his sights on West Point and a career as a helicopter pilot, said that he was pleasantly surprised to see the number of companies represented from the civilian sector.

High school students are often informed about military and teaching opportunities, he said, but seeing the number of commercial companies first-hand allowed the students to recognize that there is more available to them.

Coming Events



Direction & Choreography by Brett Harwood · Musical Direction by Alan Buxkemper

This American pop culture phenomenon is a blast from the past. Meet old friends at Conjunction Junction and let Bill rekindle your love of the legislative process.

EVENING PERFORMANCES

May 20, 21,
June 3, 4, 10 & 11
at 19:30

MATINEE PERFORMANCES

May 22,
June 4, 5, 11 & 12
at 15:00

Month of the Military Child culminates with KidsFest

Monthlong campaign promotes education, awareness



A KidsFest participant makes a dash across the 6th ASG Fire Department truck's hose, which periodically doused those brave enough to attempt a crossing with a refreshing blast of water. The April 30 Patch Barracks event, which featured educational and fun activities for kids and their parents, marked the end of the Month of the Military Child.



[Above, left] With help from Stuttgart's Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program Director Earnest Epps, a young KidsFest visitor completes a fingerprint ID kit during the April 30 event on Patch Barracks.



[Above right] A KidsFest participant tries to toss the plastic frog in the basket at a booth set up in front of the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic.



A few of the Missoula Children's Theatre cast members get into the spirit of 'The Wiz of the West' during the April 16 performance in the Patch High School Forum.

By Melanie Casey & Christine Castro

It was a month to celebrate the kids. But the Month of the Military Child, which concluded April 30 with a KidsFest observance on Patch Barracks, was much more than a celebration.

It was time set aside for parents to hone their skills through educational events such as Army Community Service's "Lunch and Learn" seminars, screen for developmental problems in young children with experts from Exceptional and Developmental Intervention Services and focus on children's safety with classes held at area elementary schools.

But there was time for fun, too. During April, children in the Stuttgart military community had the opportunity to take part in the Spring Fling 5K Race and Family Fun Run (which marked the beginning of the celebrations in Stuttgart); teen fitness classes; kids' craft and quilting camps and free movies.

Family University

Another highlight of the month was Family University, a daylong event held April 21 in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

Sponsored and facilitated by Army Community Service, Family University offered four mini sessions of parenting seminars with topics ranging from "Parenting a Strong-Willed Child" to "Internet Safety." "We are here to empower families for success," said Lori Everly, the Exceptional Family Member Program manager and one of the event's facilitators.

"There is nothing more important than supporting families and the community," said Joseph Moscone, deputy to the 6th Area Support Group commander, during his introductory remarks.

"For a better America, the children have to be supported – it is the least the senior staff can offer and Stuttgart does a great job at it," said Jane Broadwater, wife of European Command Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Colby Broadwater III, at Family University. "You are never at a stage in your life when you cannot learn something and you can always help someone else's child."

Family University was targeted at all parents, from those with small children to those with kids on their way to college, said Keita Franklin, 6th ASG Family Advocacy Program manager and Family University coordinator.

The day was "a great opportunity for parents to expand their knowledge base in a quick and fun way. The topics were diversified and not

Hopefully, this past month will serve as a springboard for more collaborative efforts as we work toward providing enriching opportunities for the Stuttgart military community.

Michelle Durgin

6th ASG Child and Youth Services

what you would find in a book on parenting. They brought in professionals with many resources," said Michelle Durgin, 6th ASG Child and Youth Liason for Education and Outreach Services.

After sitting in on the seminar "Parenting Your Strong-Willed Child," participant Julie Taylor said that the "subject was one that a lot of people were interested in and Dr. Hunt was very knowledgeable as a professional – as a parent, he was also able to relate easily and offer [a lot] of information and resources."

KidsFest

The Month of the Military Child, which occurs in conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention Month each April, culminated in KidsFest, an afternoon-long celebration held April 30 on Patch that included bouncy castles, fingerprint ID kits, bicycle registration, face painting, ballet demonstrations and much more.

Activities, both fun for kids and educational for parents, were scattered throughout the base in youth services, the child development center and fitness center as well as in Washington Square and outside of the Gussy Goose and Stuttgart Health Clinic.

Many families took advantage not only of the abundant sunshine, but also of the numerous giveaways and activities – and a free lunch.

"We really wanted to end the month on a postive note, and I believe we did," Durgin said. "I think we found the right balance between fun and informative and, ultimately, our goal of getting families out and about and spending some quality time together was achieved."

"Hopefully, this past month will serve as a springboard for more collaborative efforts as we work toward providing enriching opportunities for the Stuttgart military community."

A fairy tale with a twang: The Wiz of the West

By Christine Castro

A horde of wildlife – buzzards, coyotes, tarantulas and other creatures – were corralled in the Patch High School auditorium April 16. The rambunctious little creatures were actually children – but on this rare occasion, the kids were encouraged to imitate animals.

In support of the Month of the Military Child and sponsored by 6th Area Support Group Child and Youth Services, more than 50 of Stuttgart's youth enrolled in School Age Services were cast in the Missoula Children's Theatre musical production of "The Wiz of the West."

With this year's theme, "There's no place like home on the range," the timeless classic "The Wizard of Oz" was presented with a "twist" from the wild, wild west.

Dotty and her small pooch (named Mooch) set off to find their home. While on their travels, they befriend a bird searching for a brain, a gold miner who desires a heart, and of course, Lionel, the cowardly lion.

Inevitably, along their journey, the group is presented with unfortunate obstacles such as Hawknose Halley, the "meanest, nastiest, the worst of the lot," and her cronies, a "bunch of bad barkin,' back bitin,' bow-wows" to include Top Dog and Mad Dog.

Life's lessons learned

Subtle storyline differences were played as nuances to convey some of life's lessons. The gold miner explained that he was searching for a heart, not because he lacked one, but because his was broken as a result for his love of money.

And weary with fear of Hawknose Halley, the characters seek Dr. Ozzy, the wonderful wizard of pioneer potions and tell-tale tonics, for her expertise. The characters set off with a plan to steal Hawknose Halley's oversized fake nose in order to debilitate her from continuously threatening them, only to discover that the nose and her facade were hiding her natural beauty.

Dr. Ozzy may have been able to help others see their potential, but she had a secret of her own: She hid behind the curtain for fear that she would be judged if her secret (that she was actually a tarantula) would be exposed.

The performance ended with a final lesson as Dotty discovered that "home is where people care about you and you care about them."

Hard work paid off

The occasional challenge proved to be no impediment for experienced directors Ann Hansen and Amy Larviere.

Despite minor slips and a forgotten line

or two, the smiles and cheers from proud parents in the audience were evidence of a successful performance.

Larviere said that her and Hansen's degrees in theater and education and a love for the performing arts and kids were keys to the success of their performances. But more important, she said, was the dedication of the children.

Because they only had a week to audition and rehearse for the final performance, considerable commitment was required on the children's part to practice their lines at home. This is one reason why the event took place during the week of spring break, when the children do not have regular homework demands.

The participants experience the feeling of "amazing accomplishment from doing a play in one week," Larviere said. "If you tell a kid, 'you can do it,' they just do it," she added.

Larviere also said she felt that being involved in a theatrical production helps children of a deployed parent by temporarily diverting their minds from their loss and simply keeping them busy.

Due to the success of this year's event, 6th ASG School Age Services plans to expand the opportunity to teens in the future, said Robin Lauser, SAS director.



6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris (right) presents the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to Eric Weisel, Garmisch director of community activities, during an April 20 ceremony in the Garmisch Child Development Center. With Weisel is his wife, Sonya Day, who was given an Army Achievement Award for her role in reorganizing the Garmisch Tricare office. The couple is relocating to Vicenza, Italy.

Longtime residents earn awards

Story & photo by Drew Benson

I told them Mr. Eric was getting a present." That's how Ellen Harris, acting Garmisch Child and Youth Services coordinator, got the children at an April 20 awards ceremony held in the Garmisch Child Development Center to listen.

And listen they did, some even shushing others as 6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris presented the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to Eric Weisel, Garmisch's director of commu-

nity activities.

Weisel, who is also the Garmisch Child Development Center's director, has always chosen to keep his office in the CDC, so it was only fitting that the event be held there.

Joining Bonéy-Harris were 6th ASG Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez and his wife, Yvonne; Area Support Team Director Gregory Holzinger, and a number of guests – all of whom dutifully lined up to sign in, don a yellow "visitor" courage, and enter a realm usually reserved for preschoolers and their parents.

The children watched quietly as Weisel was pinned with a medal, and remained

attentive as Weisel's wife, Sonya Day received an Army Achievement Award for her role in reorganizing the Tricare office and getting health care service in Garmisch back on its feet.

Holzinger then presented Weisel and Day with Sustained Superior Performance awards.

Weisel, Day, and their son, Quinn, will soon be moving to Vicenza, Italy, where Weisel is slated to become child and youth services coordinator.

For more about Garmisch's DCA programs call 440-3684/civ. 08821-750-3684.



Drew Benson

Members of the all-volunteer Garmisch Players theater group are recognized by 6th ASG Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez during the April 29 Garmisch Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort.

Volunteers honored for efforts

By Samantha Garrison

Several valuable and inspirational community members were honored April 29 during the 2005 Volunteer Recognition Ceremony in the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort. The theme for the luncheon was "Inspire by Example," and it was clear that those who volunteered had motivated many others to share their time as well.

6th Area Support Group Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez referred to the Garmisch volunteers as "the backbone of the community," and thanked all those who had donated their time despite their busy schedules.

Youth volunteers

Special thanks went to the children who volunteered so many hours helping out with various activities in the community. Two Garmisch community youths received awards for outstanding achievement in the community: Blaise McMahon for Promise Passport Outstanding Teen Volunteer and Ariana Allen for 6th ASG Youth of the Year.

"I think the ceremony was well put together ... it's nice to see people being recognized for all the hard work they do," Allen said. (See box, left, for more about Allen)

Others who were recognized for their significant contributions were Ken Boretti, Michelle Boretti, Angela Fravell, Jan Denikiewicz, Ewa Denikiewicz, Chip Hester, Kelly Hester, Bruce Gittinger, Anke Heimke, Melissa Galluzzo, Keith Eades, Martina Stiver and Paul Dutro.

"This was my first attendance with the volunteer recognition luncheon and I thought it was very nice," said Michele Myhand, who attended the event with her family.

"Our community is small, but every act counts and every effort is always rewarded with a smile," Myhand said. "The Garmisch community atmosphere is something that you cannot get from every installation, but the special and unique people that come here are unlike any other."

The "Singing Valentines" (Jeff Allen, Sue Allen, Joanna Allred, Ron Benzing, Timothy Forsyth, Laurel Kelly, Jen Stephan and Eric Weddle) were among those honored during the ceremony.

Award-winning theater group

The Garmisch Players theater group was also recognized for its outstanding performances in both "A Black Comedy" and "The 1940's Radio Hour."

The all-volunteer group took home nine awards at the April 23 European Tournament of Plays ceremony in Heidelberg, including the following:

- Best Ensemble, "Black Comedy"
- Best Technical Director, "Black Comedy"
- Best Director, "Black Comedy"
- Best Supporting Actor & Actress, "Black Comedy"
- Best Orchestra, "1940's Radio Hour"
- Best Sound and Lighting Design, "1940's Radio Hour"

"The entire luncheon was amazing," said one attendee. "It feels like I am at the Oscars with all the awards and cheering ... everyone gives a little in this community and when everyone chips in it makes the community a great place to live in, even if we are one of the smaller areas."

Garmisch resident 6th ASG Youth of the Year

By Christine Castro

For the second consecutive year, a Garmisch resident has received the 6th Area Support Group Youth of the Year Award.

Ariana Allen, a senior at the Munich International School, was recognized for her achievement during the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 29 in the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort. The Boys and Girls Club of America officiates the annual competition throughout the United States and overseas.

Competitors were required to complete an application packet, write seven short essays and two long essays and participate in an oral interview. Essay topics included moral character, community, school, life goals, overcoming obstacles, and education.

Allen was chosen based on her public speaking ability, essay content and poise.

Exceptional Garmisch youth

"There is an excellent standard of youth we've got here," said Michelle Montgomery, teen coordinator for Garmisch Youth Services.

Allen overcomes challenges and time constraints daily, Montgomery said. The new Youth of the Year serves as a team captain of three school sports and participates "Club Beyond" – a ministry program active in volunteer and charity work.

She also helped build an orphanage in Poland and is very active in theater. "I don't know how she finds the time to do it, let alone the inclination," Montgomery said.

"She's a great kid – does the right things – we've been



Drew Benson

6th ASG Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez congratulates Allen with a pat on the back and a plaque for her achievement during an April 29 ceremony.

blessed," said her father, Jeff Allen.

"She has a pretty good grasp on what is right and wrong and employs that daily," he added.

With aspirations of earning an engineering degree and becoming a pilot, Allen has already been accepted into the U.S. Air Force Academy and is awaiting a response to her application with the U.S. Naval Academy.



Dr. John P. Rose, director of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, addresses a crowd of more than 500 during the opening of the April 18 German American Reception at the Kongresshalle in Garmisch.

Germans, Americans unite for annual reception and briefing

Story & photo by Joseph Ferrare
Marshall Center Public Affairs Office

The U.S. and Garmisch communities came together in Garmisch April 18 for a pair of events that celebrated and expanded on their long relationship.

Several hundred members of the two communities gathered in the Kongresshalle for an annual German-American reception. The event featured music by the *Gebirgsmusikchor* (German Army Mountain Band), Bavarian cuisine and speeches by Garmisch-Partenkirchen Mayor Thomas Schmid and the Director of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies Dr. John P. Rose.

The 6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris, Command Sgt. Major Daniel Chavez and Director of Area Support Team Garmisch Gregory Holzinger also attended.

Before the Marshall Center was established, Schmid said, Garmisch-Partenkirchen was primarily known for its scenery

and sports events. But having the Marshall Center and the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort has brought the area a new kind of fame, he said.

"Having the Marshall Center here put us on the political map," Schmid said. "The Marshall Center has brought a lot of people to Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Diplomats, heads of states, military professionals and participants come from all over Europe to the Marshall Center, and then return to their home countries. Many return to show their families our beautiful area."

In his remarks, Rose thanked the community of Garmisch-Partenkirchen for its continued support, friendship and hospitality.

"Your support has opened many doors for us," Rose said. "It makes us proud to

Your support has opened many doors for us. It makes us proud to be a part of your community.

Dr. John P. Rose

George C. Marshall Center for European Studies

be a part of your community."

Later that evening, the Marshall Center brought almost 150 community members onto Sheridan Barracks for a briefing on the center's operations as part of an ongoing program aimed at familiarizing the community with the center's mission of promoting peace and stability throughout Europe and Eurasia.

For more information visit www.marshallcenter.org, call Joseph Ferrare at 08821-750-2543 or e-mail ferrarej@marshallcenter.org

Center hosts international NCO conference

George C. Marshall Center Release

The senior noncommissioned officers who helped develop and run the first-ever International Senior NCO Seminar April 25 to 29 in Garmisch declared it a success as the meeting of more than two dozen of NATO's top enlisted members concluded.

The George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies collaborated with some of the top NCOs in the NATO and U. S. European Command to make the vision of Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, Gen. James L. Jones a reality.

"It really started with General Jones' vision of getting the NCOs knowledgeable about the level of things they teach at the Senior Executive Seminar," said SACEUR Sgt. Maj. Alford L. McMichael.

That next step brought 28 senior NCOs from 13 countries to the Marshall Center to take part in a pilot program that had them attending the same morning sessions as general officers, senior civilian leaders from various European, Eurasian and North American ministries of defense and foreign affairs, as well as parliamentarians.

The sessions included guest speakers and Marshall Center faculty lectures on NATO current issues and transformation,

German and European threat perceptions and responses, the stability of Iraq and Middle East, and the challenges of asymmetrical warfare in the 21st Century.

In the afternoon sessions, the NCOs focused on professional development issues such as the role of senior NCOs in Public Affairs, NATO NCO development and education, and the role of senior enlisted leaders in a coalition task force.

That breadth and depth of topics was why the NCOs came together, said Command Master Chief Steven Wacker, senior enlisted advisor for Allied Transformation.

"This course is designed for a senior enlisted leader who is going to be sitting next to a three- and four-star commander and working with them on developing missions and the vision of where our militaries are going and where our operations are going," Wacker said. "We're taking them to the level of looking at what's happening strategically throughout the world so they can get smarter on it and understand what their commanders are dealing with."

McMichael, Wacker and primary seminar developer EUCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bartelle said even though they were pleased that the pilot seminar was a success for those who attended, the bigger success was the start of an approach that would pay off for commanders and NCOs in the future.

News & Notes

Closures & changes

• **The next Townhall meeting** is May 19 at 7 p.m. in the Pete Burke Center.

• **The new DSN telephone prefix** for Artillery Kaserne is now 440-3xxx (replacing 442-2xxx numbers). The DSN prefix for Sheridan Barracks and the Breitenau area remains 440-2xxx.

• **The new civilian prefix** for Artillery Kaserne is 08821-750-3xxx. (replacing 08821-759-xxx). The civilian prefix for Sheridan Barracks and the Breitenau area is now 08821-750-2xxx. (replacing 08821-750-xxx).

These changes took effect April 28.

AST intramural softball league

The Garmisch Area Support Team intramural softball league begins May 16. Coaches will have an organizational meeting May 12 at 6 p.m. in the fitness center.

Teams who would like to participate in either a co-ed or open league should pick up a roster packet at the fitness center. Individuals who would like to join a team can call the fitness center at 440-2747/civ. 08821-750-2747.

Spouses Club seeks board members

The Garmisch Community Spouses' Club is looking for new board members for next year. Vacancies include president and treasurer. If the club does not find people willing to serve on the board, it may be forced to disband.

Both positions take 3 to 5 hours per month with a little more involvement during a major fundraiser. The positions need to be filled by the end of May.

For more information or to volunteer call Monica Haschak at 08821-730-293 or e-mail mohasgsd@hotmail.com.

Legal assistance available

Representatives from the Stuttgart Law Center will be in Garmisch May 16 and 17, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 3 p.m., building 202, room 109 (upstairs) on Artillery Kaserne.

Attorney consultations are available by appointment only. For more information call 421-4152/civ. 0711-729-4152.

Looking for work?

• **The Thrift Shop** is looking for volunteers willing to donate a few hours per month with organizing and cleaning. Child care is reimbursed up to \$25 per month. Contact Brigitte at 440-3552/civ. 08821-750-3552.

• **The Teen Center and School Age Services** are looking for two fine arts contractors to work approximately 10 hours per week.

Applicants should have a working knowledge and talent in arts and crafts, photography and basic computer skills, have a passion for theater and like to work with young people. Experience is preferred but not required.

For details call Melanie Resto at 440-2654/civ. 08821-750-2654 or e-mail melanie.resto@garmisch.army.mil.

Medical representatives in town

Representatives from the Ramstein Medical Clinic will visit May 9 to 13 in building 203 on Artillery Kaserne (the dental clinic).

A doctor will be on hand to perform well-baby, pap smear, medication refill, health assessments and general check ups. Immunizations will be given on a walk-in basis.

The clinic will be open for Munich International School students May 12, 6 to 8 p.m.

To make an appointment or for more information call 440-3618/civ. 08821-750-3618.

Happenings out & about

• **Garmisch flea market**, May 14 at the Loisachpark. Set up begins at 6 a.m. To request a table, fill out a registration form in the Host Nation Affairs office, building 203, room 105, Artillery Kaserne. The participation fee is 5 euro.

For details call 440-3843/civ. 08821-750-3843.

• **The Fronleichnam Inaugural Cycle Ride**, May 26 leaving the Burke Center at 7:30 a.m. Join Paul Dutro on a bike tour through Partenkirchen, Garmisch, Murnau and Seehausen.

The cost is 8 euro for the train to Murnau, free for those opting to stay in Garmisch.

For details call 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-2461.

Women's Bible study beginning

Would you like to learn more about the Bible, but don't know where to start?

Tuesdays, beginning May 17 at 8:45 a.m. in the Garmisch Community Chapel, the Protestant Women of the Chapel begins a 4-week course on the Gospel of John. The study will also be conducted on Mondays, 6:45 p.m., in apartment 701-D.

For more information call Lisa LeBrun at 08821-967-961 or Kaye Pepin at 08821-909-272.



A group of students samples some of the essential oils provided during a recent aromatherapy class in the Stuttgart Wellness Center. Participants later concocted their own blends.

The art of aromatherapy

Stuttgart Wellness Center class helps participants find inner balance

Story & photo by Mildred E. Green

In today's busy world, who takes time for themselves – to relax, meditate or just simply take a break from the stresses of the day?

Taking time for oneself in order to have a balance in life is essential, according to Joni Brady, nurse educator with the Stuttgart Wellness Center.

Brady offers the Stuttgart community a variety of classes throughout the year at the Stuttgart Wellness Center on Patch Barracks.

From aromatherapy and meditation classes to blood pressure screening and one-on-one consultations, Brady helps community members find the balance between their minds and bodies.

Quoting the words of comedian Phyllis Diller, Brady said, "If you don't have wrinkles, you haven't laughed enough."

Whether one chooses laughter or a different kind of self-empowerment method, Brady believes, "the more you take care of you, the more you can take care of all that matters."

Aromatherapy

What exactly is aromatherapy? Aromatherapy is a type of complementary medicine that "involves the use of essential oils (extracts or essences) from flowers, herbs and trees to promote health and well being," according to the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine's Web site (<http://nccam.nih.gov>).

Complementary medicine, as defined by NCCAM, is a medicine that can be used along with conventional medicine to help a person. For example, it can be used to reduce one's discomfort after surgery.

Alternative medicine, on the other hand, is used *instead* of conventional medicine. An example of alternative medicine is a diet used to treat a disease, such as cancer, as an alternative to going through surgery, radiation or chemotherapy.

Other examples of both complementary and alternative medicines in-

clude acupuncture and acupressure, meditation, aromatherapy, therapeutic massage, music therapy and yoga.

Brady teaches an hour-long aromatherapy class at the Wellness Center four times a year.

During each session, Brady covers the basics of aromatherapy, which include aromatherapy history, the production of essential oils, the safe use of essential oils, exploring the oils and their therapeutic actions, rules for blending and simple methods for dispersing oils.

Brady offers aromatherapy classes during the day and in the evening to accommodate both service members and civilians.

And the class is not just for women. Many men and service members of all ranks have visited the wellness center to learn about aromatherapy, Brady said.

Aroma lab

During a recent class, Brady explained to participants how the sense of smell works on a subconscious level and how certain smells can take one to another place and time.

On one of the handouts that Brady gives to participants, she states that "aromatherapy takes advantage of this direct connection between the subconscious mind and the olfactory system (sense of smell). The psychological effect is from an emotional response to the smell."

During the last portion of class, attendees were able to experiment with some essential oils and create their own blends.

To help participants make a blend that best suited their individual needs, Brady provided them with a handout that listed the oils and the corresponding emotions they are expected to ease.

According to the guide, basil, ginger, grapefruit, jasmine, sandalwood

Aromatherapy

May 18

1 to 2 p.m. or 5 to 6 p.m.

Stuttgart Wellness Center
(Patch Barracks)

For more information call
430-4658/civ. 0711-680-4658 or
e-mail joni.m.brady@us.army.mil.

and black pepper help with fatigue, exhaustion and burnout symptoms, while bergamot, lavender, rose and mandarin help reduce stress.

During Brady's recent class, one student created a blend using different oils to help her cope with her sleeping problems, while another created a mix for relaxation.

Class participant Jeanne Nierle made a blend to help her cope with stress. Nierle, who began learning about aromatherapy a few months ago, said she believes that "with all of the stressors in today's life, aromatherapy is a simple and inexpensive way to get the entire family to relax."

Finding balance

Every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the wellness center's resource room, visitors can find the soothing sounds of a CD playing in the background or the scent of a brewing mix of essential oils in the air.

The room is open for those who would like to talk with Brady, take a few minutes out of his or her hectic schedule to enjoy the message chair or pick up health education resources.

"You have to have balance," Brady said. "Between career and family, if you don't have [balance], life gets out of sync and it starts to show in a physiological way."

Aromatherapy can help with finding that balance.

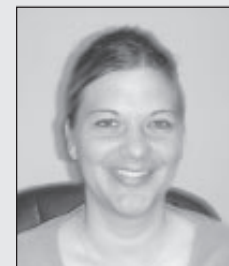
Stuttgart staff member assists victims of sexual assault

By Terri Alejandro

The message is clear – the language unequivocal – Not in our Army. At every level, from the Department of Defense to the local command, military leaders are making it clear that sexual assault has no place in our Army.

The Army in Europe Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program informational campaign states: "Sexual assault is a violent crime that has no place in our Army – It is incompatible with Army Values and Warrior Ethos."

Perhaps you have seen an AFN television commercial or read a "Bell Sends" message to this effect. If you live in the 6th Area Support Group, this message, as well as training in sexual assault prevention, response and victim advocacy, will be delivered by Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Holly Munoz.



Munoz

Munoz originally joined the Army Community Service's staff as a Family Advocacy Program educator. When ACS received the mandate to create a SARC position, Munoz was chosen to fill this critical role.

A self-described "helping person," Munoz does exactly that – help victims navigate through the difficult time following a sexual assault. "I let them know the types of resources available to them, discuss their options and then guide them through the process," Munoz said.

She also physically accompanies the victims every step of the way, encouraging them to exercise their options during each phase of the medical, investigative and legal processes.

Reporting the crime

Sexual assault is the most underreported crime both in general society and in the military, according to the Army Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Web site (www.sexualassault.army.mil). Many victims feel ashamed or guilty and do not report the offender. "It's estimated that only 16 percent of sexual assaults are ever reported," Munoz said. There are, however, varying levels of reporting.

A sexual assault victim can disclose the details of an assault to the SARC confidentially and receive medical treatment, including the collection and preservation of forensic evidence, and engage in counseling without initiating an investigative process.

When she speaks with victims, Munoz encourages official action to help them with closure. "I encourage them to report, but I don't force them," Munoz said. "I will always support the decision of the victim."

A victim who receives appropriate care and treatment and is provided the opportunity to make informed decisions about a criminal investigation is more likely to develop increased trust in the command and may eventually decide to go forward in initiating an investigation, Munoz said, adding that her role is to explain all options.

"The victim's immediate response is often to want get medical treatment and then put the entire incident behind [him or her]," Munoz said. If evidence is gathered properly and the incident is documented with the SARC, the victim does not have to decide immediately about whether or not to pursue an official investigation.

"It is never too late to report an assault," Munoz said. Knowing about this option gives victims additional time and increased control over the release and management of their personal information.

A system that promotes privacy and confidentiality can encourage victims to come forward to provide information about being assaulted, regardless of whether or not the victim chooses to initiate a criminal investigation.

This information gives commanders a clearer picture of sexual violence in their command and enhances their ability to provide a safe environment.

Defining assault

"People need to understand that regardless of their personal idea of what is right or wrong, they will be held to the Army standard of what constitutes a sexual assault," Munoz said. Though there are different categories of types of assault, the DoD defines sexual assault as "intentional sexual contact characterized by use of force, physical threat, or abuse of authority, or when a victim does not or cannot consent."

"It comes down to being careful about what kinds of situations you put yourself in," Munoz said. This applies to both potential victims and offenders. The statistics draw a very clear picture of who is at risk and what demographic comprises the majority of offenders.

• Young Soldiers (E-1 to E-4) are the most likely victims.

See **Assault** page 13

Swim smart this summer

Simple steps ensure safe experience in the water



file photo

Area safety officials are urging community members to swim smart this season. Though lakes, ponds and streams may look like refreshing options at the end of long summer days, they and other natural bodies of water are off-limits – unless the area is clearly marked that swimming is allowed and lifeguards are on duty.

By Hugh C. McBride

Nothing says summer quite like a cool dip at the end of a hot day. But before you leap into that inviting body of water, be sure that you're not acting unsafely – or violating local policy.

For years, drowning has been a leading cause of death within U.S. Army, Europe. To combat this problem, USAREUR and 6th Area Support Group officials are urging community members to swim smart this summer.

According to a 6th ASG memorandum dated April 25, most drownings within the overseas military community have occurred during off-duty hours in unauthorized swimming areas, and have frequently been related to alcohol use and hypothermia.

For that reason, the memorandum – which is signed by 6th ASG Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris – notes that natural bodies of water (for example, lakes, rivers and gravel pits) are off-limits to 6th ASG personnel unless the areas meet the following standards:

- They are clearly marked as appropriate for swimming.
- They are staffed by lifeguards from the German Life Rescue Association.

This doesn't mean, though, that would-be swimmers in Stuttgart and Garmisch will find themselves high and dry this summer. Both areas offer a number of pools and approved

Swimming Safety Tips

DO

- Swim only in approved, safe areas with lifeguards on duty.
- Learn basic water rescue and water survival techniques (to assist others and to protect yourself).

DO NOT

- Swim alone.
- Swim while under the influence of alcohol.
- Swim during a storm.
- Swim when tired or chilled.
- Dive into unfamiliar water.

bodies of water for swimming.

Lists of approved swimming areas are available from the following sources:

- 6th ASG Web site – www.stuttgart.army.mil
- 6th ASG Safety Office – 421-2752/civ. 0711-729-2752; dreizlerh@6asg.army.mil
- Area Support Team Garmisch Safety Office – 440-3595/civ. 08821-750-3595.

Assault from page 12

- 74 percent of sexual assaults (including rape) involve alcohol.
- 50 percent of rape victims know the alleged offender.

Training and prevention

Both potential victims and offenders can benefit from receiving training in the prevention of sexual assault.

Munoz's training sessions define assault, examine risk factors and, most important, offer participants the chance to discuss real-life situations based on practical exercises.

"Reading and discussing the scenarios allows men and women to explore what kinds of situations they may find themselves facing and learn how to best deal with them," Munoz said.

Unit Victim Advocates

Additional training is required for individuals appointed as Unit Victim Advocates. These candidates must be carefully screened and trained since they are likely to become involved in highly-charged, emotionally stressful situations.

The advantage to having an organizational UVA is twofold.

First, he or she is a familiar face. "Often a victim will want to disclose [his or her] ordeal to someone they know and trust," Munoz said. Second, the UVA will be an available resource downrange when a service member deploys.

Building the infrastructure to ensure support services are readily available to victims of sexual assault is a job-in-progress. While Munoz is always available and can be reached 24 hours a day

by cell phone, it is important to build a network of trained UVAs to assist victims. If unit-level representatives learn of an assault, they can assist the victim, as well as serve as a liaison with the SARC. "They will be trained to offer the same resources I do, but if their role ends with referring the victim to me, then they have performed a valuable service," Munoz said.

Munoz's current focus is on building awareness by letting the community know that there is someone available dedicated to assisting victims of sexual assault.

"I'm here 24-7, but the only way I can help is if the victim asks – everyone needs to know I'm available so if they ever need me, they can make the call," she said.

Information about the resources Munoz provides, as well as other Family Advocacy programs, are given at several key levels. Munoz briefs local leaders at the 6th ASG commander's monthly tenant's meeting and conducts training at unit-level and in-processing briefings.

She is also available to speak with organizations, such as family readiness groups about sexual assault prevention and response.

To schedule a training session or to learn more about becoming a Unit Victim Advocate call ACS at 421-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

To contact Munoz call 430-7689/civ. 0711-680-7689 (during duty hours only) or 0160-908-14337 (after hours).

Visit www.sexualassault.army.mil for additional resources.

Stuttgart Child & Youth Services
wants you to take time for yourself.



Parent's Night Out

Sign-up before 4:30pm
Wednesday May 11, 2005

Child must be registered with CYS

Cost is \$15 per child due at sign-up (includes snack)

Friday May 13, 2005
6:30pm-11:00pm
Panzer CDC



For locations and reservation requirements, contact Central Registration on Patch Barracks, Bldg. 2347 (upstairs) DSN 430-7480 or 0711-680-7480



—Voice your opinion—

Survey helps officials improve MWR programs

6th Area Support Group Marketing Office

To better provide the Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs community members want, the Stuttgart military community is participating in the Armywide 2005 MWR Leisure Needs Survey.

The survey will obtain valuable information about customer leisure time activities, and use and satisfaction with MWR facilities and programs.

The Leisure Needs Survey is a key source of information for MWR managers, local commanders and senior Army leadership. Survey data is used in program planning and decision-making to improve the MWR activities that are important to quality of life in the community.

Usually conducted every three years, the Leisure Needs Survey is customized for each participating installation.

This year's survey will be fielded at 92 installations, with over 260,000 surveys distributed Armywide to active-duty Soldiers, spouses, civilian employees and military retirees.

In Stuttgart's "purple" community, the survey applies to everyone, regardless of military service.

Soldiers and civilian employees selected through random sampling distribution will receive a survey through their unit or workplace. The survey will be mailed directly to spouses

and military retirees.

Respondents have the option of taking the survey either on paper or online at www.ArmyMWRSurvey.com. Filling out the online version provides the convenience of being able to complete the survey quicker.

The greater the number of responses, the more accurate and helpful the information is in guiding the Army in providing the MWR programs the community wants and needs.

This makes it critical that every recipient of the survey takes the time to complete it. All survey responses are anonymous and confidential.

Surveys should be returned in the provided self-addressed envelope by May 31.

All organizations that have a participation of 70-percent or greater will receive a free bowling and pizza party at the Galaxy Bowling and Entertainment Center on Panzer Kaserne.

The Army MWR Leisure Needs Survey is conducted by the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va., the Army agency which manages Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs to Soldiers and families, Department of Defense civilians and military retirees worldwide.

For more information about the Leisure Needs Survey call Sallie Cauthers at 421-2047/civ. 0711-629-2047 or e-mail sallie.cauthers@cmtymail.6asg.army.mil.

For more information about Army MWR visit www.armymwr.com.

'Freedom Team Salute' honors those who support Soldiers

By Eric Cramer
Army News Service

The Army kicked off its Freedom Team Salute campaign designed to recognize those who support Soldiers' service and veterans who have served the country in the past in a May 2 ceremony at the Pentagon.

Francis Harvey, secretary of the Army, said the goal of the campaign is to recognize those who make Soldiers' service possible.

"Our Soldiers could not answer their noble calling of defending the values that have made our country great — this call to duty — without the support of those from whom they draw so much strength: spouses, parents, relatives, teachers friends and employers," Harvey said.

He said Army veterans are also a key part of the campaign.

"Of particular importance is the recognition that this program provides for Army veterans," Harvey said.

"Freedom Team Salute provides another opportunity for the Army to show its appreciation to veterans and Veteran Service Organizations for their dedicated serviced and continued support of today's Soldiers and families," he said.

Gen. Richard Cody, vice chief of staff of the Army, said Freedom Team Salute is a way to recognize the sacrifices of those who don't wear the Army's uniform.

"Freedom Team Salute allows our Soldiers to pause and say 'thank you' to our incredible extended Army family that has done so much



Staff Sgt. Carmen L. Burgess

Secretary of the Army Francis Harvey presents the first Freedom Team Salute pin to David Rodriguez May 2.

for our troops," Cody said.

Veteran David Rodriguez, the first person to receive a Freedom Team Salute pin, said the recognition is an honor.

"We need show the people in the community that the military, the Army, knows and cares about the sacrifices they make," he said.

The Freedom Team Salute package includes an "Army of One" lapel pin, official Army decal and more.

For more information about the program visit www.freedomteamsalute.army.mil.

Sliders Lounge

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

May-June '05

TUESDAY NIGHT
Baby Back Rib \$9.95 5-9pm!

★ **EVERY WEDNESDAY** ★
Lunch served 11am-2pm
Steak Night \$12.95 5-9 pm!

May 6: Good Old Rock-n-Roll with American Pie 8 p.m.

May 13: Karaoke with DJ Nev 8 p.m.

May 20: Spinning the top 40's with DJ Spike 8 p.m.

May 27: Lounge open for the Four day weekend 8 p.m.

June 3: Karaoke with DJ Nev 8 p.m.

June 10: Spinning Goodies but Oldies with DJ Spike

June 17: Karoke with DJ Nev 8 p.m.

June 24: Salsa with DJ Angel 8 p.m.

June 25: Country with DJ Joker 8 p.m.

The Lounge is open to all ranks & services

For more information, contact Sliders Lounge at 430-5758 /civ. 0711-680-5758.

Trek the Tank Trail!

Registration
May 9-19

2nd Annual Cobblestone Classic

May 21, 2005, 10am

Walk or Run the old tank trail from Patch to Panzer

*Fee: \$5 for individual \$10 for family
Participants will be returned to Patch Barracks.

★ FREE t-shirt w/registration

For more info or to register, contact Cory Doubek DSN 430-5386 or 0711-680-5386



Taking advantage of the area's warmest weather thus far this year, a golfer makes his approach shot from the Stuttgart Golf Course's first fairway April 30.

Sunny skies greet course's first tournament

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Golf season got off to a glorious start in Stuttgart. Under the sunniest skies thus far this year, 92 golfers hit the links April 30 for the Stuttgart Golf Course's Chuck Cresswell Memorial Tournament.

In addition to officially opening the season, the tournament also served as a way for the club's members and guests to honor Cresswell, a former Marine and course groundskeeper who died unexpectedly April 14 (*obituary, page 3*).

For Course Manager Marco Spellacy, the beautiful weather was a fitting tribute to the person for whom the event was named.

"What made Chuck special was that the guy always had a smile on his face," Spellacy said. "That's why people were drawn to him."

'Unbelievable improvements'

Though he can't guarantee that every day on the course will be as inviting as it was during the season-opener, the director of business operations for the 6th Area Support Group's Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation is confident that area golfers will have an exceptional experience every time they hit the links in Kornwestheim (where the course is located).

"Marco and his staff have done an incredible job getting this course ready," said Mark Cauthers. "It's unbelievable how many great improvements they've made in terms of both the facility and customer service."

Cauthers' comments were echoed by Dave Hamilton, a participant in the tournament who said he also plays in a weekly scramble at the Kornwestheim course.

"Marco runs a great tournament, and he's really turned this course around," Hamilton said. "The quality of the course has improved [since Spellacy arrived], the pro shop has more equipment [and] it's an incredible bargain."

Hamilton said Spellacy's efforts have won widespread praise from both German and American golfers, and have made the course an inviting destination for players of all skill levels.

"I'm a big Marco fan," Hamilton said. "We have a true professional out here."

Upcoming events

With the season now officially opened, area golfers and golf fans have a number of options to learn, play or watch. Highlights include the following:

- The course's first **Thursday Night Scramble** of the year was May 5, and the series is set to continue on the first and third Thursdays of the month throughout the summer.

Participants must register in the pro shop by 5:45 p.m., and the golfing gets underway with a shotgun start at 6:15 p.m.

- The course will host the **Army Ball Tournament** May 13, which is set to begin at 8:15 a.m. with a shotgun start. Golfers



Under the watchful gaze of his teammates, a participant in the April 30 Chuck Cresswell Memorial Tournament lofts a pitch toward the 18th green. Twenty-three teams hit the links for the four-person scramble, the Stuttgart Golf Course's first official event of 2005.

may register individually or as part of a team for this four-person scramble by calling 430-8705/civ. 0711-680-8705.

- Novice players can take advantage of **Adult Beginner**, **Ladies' Beginner**, and **Junior** classes throughout May, as well as **private lessons** throughout the season.

Instructional dates, times and fees vary, but complete information is available in the pro shop.

- Spectators can watch and learn from some of the military's best local golfers when the Stuttgart course hosts the **Army Europe Golf Championship** July 19 to 21.

Unlimited opportunities

Regardless of a player's experience or skill level, Spellacy said the Stuttgart course is the ideal place to develop, rekindle or enhance one's love for the game.

"We've got a great team out here, and any U.S. ID cardholder can come out and play. Plus, I think we're the best bargain in Europe," Spellacy said. With both German and American members, the course is a popular destination – but busy days don't daunt the course manager.

"I just appreciate seeing them all out here," Spellacy said.

Just the Facts

Stuttgart Golf Course

Location

- **Address** – Aldinger Strasse 975, Kornwestheim.

- **Directions** – Take B-27 toward Ludwigsburg. Exit at "Kornwestheim-Nord Remseck." Turn right at stop sign at end of exit ramp. Course is approximately 1.5 km on the left.

Description

- **Layout** – Eighteen-hole, par 73 (37 on front, 36 on back) course with wide, tree-lined fairways leading to relatively small greens.

- **Distance** – 7,000 yards from championship tees; 6,742 from men's tees; 5,954 from women's tees.

- **Facilities** – Clubhouse features pro shop and restaurant with patio. Practice areas include driving range, two putting greens and one pitching green.

Fees

- **Greens fees** – One-round fees range from \$6 (for E-1 to E-4, weekday, 9 holes) to \$24 (O-5 to O-10, weekend, 18 holes). Ten-round cards and season passes are also available.

- **Private lessons** – \$50 per hour for adults; \$20 per hour for juniors and enlisted personnel in the ranks of E-4 and below.

Staff

- **Head Pro** – Marco Spellacy

- **Superintendent** – Chris Konik

- **Lessons** – Simone Morgan (British PGA Professional) & Mike Newell (European Professional Development Tour Professional)

- **Contact** – 07141-879-150/151

ARMED FORCES DAY
2005

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OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN

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